

✓ NR- 6/2/70 NRHP- 9/15/70

85-27

100-1069

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Shenandoah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME  
New Market Battlefield Park

2. LOCATION  
New Market Battlefield

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC	
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition: In Process Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: Restricted		<input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied			
Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress			

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME  
Virginia Military Institute, Mr. James J. Geary, Director

STREET AND NUMBER:  
New Market Battlefield Park, Box 1864

CITY OR TOWN:  
New Market

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
45

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS ETC:  
Shenandoah County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Woodstock

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
45

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #85-27

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN:  
Richmond

STATE:  
Virginia

CODE:  
45

STATE: Virginia

COUNTY: Shenandoah

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The New Market Battlefield Park consists of about 160 acres west of the Valley Pike (U. S. Route 11) and about one mile north of New Market. The rolling countryside is relatively free of trees and shrubs, and the land generally slopes from west to east. In the middle of the battlefield stands the Bushong House, used by both sides as a hospital during the battle and now the visitor center for the park. Trails lead across the battlefield and up to the point where the Federal cannon were emplaced. Several full-scale models of Civil War fieldpieces are on display on the bluff, which also has overlooks that provide excellent views of the valley and the Shenandoah River.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1864

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As one of the supporting movements in Grant's campaign for Richmond in the spring of 1864, Union troops were to advance up the Shenandoah Valley and take possession of Southwest Virginia, severing Confederate railroad lines and destroying Lee's bases of supply. On May 9, 1864, Union Major General Franz Sigel began moving his command of about 6,500 men toward Staunton, a vital rail center controlled by Confederate forces under Major General John C. Breckinridge. By the time the Union troops had arrived at Strasburg, Breckinridge had gathered his command of about 5,000 men, including 247 cadets from The Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, and marched from Staunton to oppose them. Breckinridge chose New Market as his battleground since the turnpike from Front Royal and Luray joined the Valley Pike (the main north-south thoroughfare) there. On May 15, 1864, the Confederates defeated the slightly larger Union forces. It was the only engagement in the Civil War in which cadets participated.

The Battle of New Market has been called one of the most important secondary engagements of the Civil War. Douglas Southall Freeman wrote:

Had Sigel not been driven back when he was, the Valley of Virginia might have been occupied by the Federals before the wheat crop was harvested. Hunger would have come sooner. In addition, the western end of the Virginia Central Railroad would have fallen into hostile hands. The prospects of losing that supply line might have compelled Lee to send part of his Army to the Valley while pressure at Spotsylvania was heaviest. Short as was the time saved by the Battle of New Market, it was invaluable.

Twenty-three days later, however, the Union Army, then under the command of Major General David Hunter, returned to New Market. The struggle for supremacy in the Shenandoah Valley continued for another five months, the turning point coming on October 19, 1864, when Major General Philip H. Sheridan won a crushing victory at Cedar Creek.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

*(Continuation Sheet)*

STATE	
Virginia	
COUNTY	
Shenandoah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

*(Number all entries)*

8. A graduate of The Virginia Military Institute, Mr. George Collins, acquired most of the battlefield in 1944 and willed the property to his alma mater, which received the 160-acre tract in 1964, with a three million dollar endowment fund. A program of restoration and development is now in progress.

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Battles and Leaders of the Civil War (4 vols., New York, 1884-1888).  
 Freeman, Douglas Southall, Lee's Lieutenants (New York, 1944).  
 McDermott, John D. and Charles W. Snell, New Market Battlefield Park,  
 Virginia (unpublished manuscript), special report prepared for the  
 National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings.  
 Turner, E. R., The New Market Campaign (Richmond, 1912).  
 Short, James R., "Field of Honor," Virginia Cavalcade, Vol. 3, No. 4 (Spring,  
 1954), 30-35.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	38 ° 40 ' 12 "	78 ° 40 ' 23 "	0		
NE	38 ° 40 ' 12 "	78 ° 39 ' 40 "			
SE	38 ° 39 ' 40 "	78 ° 39 ' 40 "			
SW	38 ° 39 ' 40 "	78 ° 40 ' 23 "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 160 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: March 16, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 45

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman

Title: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Shenandoah	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: New Market Battlefield Park			
AND/OR HISTORIC: New Market Battlefield			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: W side of Rt. 11, 1 mi. N of intersection with Rt. 211.			
CITY OR TOWN: (New Market vic.)			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Shenandoah	CODE 171
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. map 15', quadrangle Mt. Jackson, Virginia			
SCALE: 1:62500			
DATE: 1942			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property boundaries where required.</li> <li>North arrow.</li> <li>Latitude and longitude reference.</li> </ol>			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Virginia	
COUNTY Shenandoah	
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COMMON: New Market Battlefield Park			
AND/OR HISTORIC: New Market Battlefield			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: W side of Rt. 11, 1 mi. N of intersection with Rt. 211.			
CITY OR TOWN: (New Market vic.)			
STATE: Virginia	CODE 45	COUNTY: Shenandoah	CODE 171
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT:			
DATE OF PHOTO:			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

U.S.G.S. -15' quadrangle (Scale:1:62500)  
 Mt. Jackson, Va. 1942

New Market Battlefield Park

Latitude	Longitude
NW 38° 40' 12"	78° 40' 23"
NE 38° 40' 12"	78° 39' 40"
SE 38° 39' 40"	78° 39' 40"
SW 38° 39' 40"	78° 40' 23"

